United Nations A/60/381–S/2005/607

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
27 September 2005

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixtieth session
Agenda item 19
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Sixtieth year

Letter dated 23 September 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 2 August 2005 addressed to you, I have the honour to draw your attention to new violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 3, 8, 10, 17, 24 and 31 August and 1, 5, 7, 12, 13, 14, 17 and 19 September 2005, as follows:

On 3 August 2005, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it departed on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 8 August 2005, two Cougar Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before landing at the Kokkina pocket, from where they returned on the same day to the Krini airport.

On 10 August 2005, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it departed on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 17 August 2005, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft and one Cougar Turkish military aircraft violated international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it later departed towards the FIR of Ankara;

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(b) The Cougar Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating the international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied areas of Mesaoria, Ammochostos and Morfou, before returning to the same airport.

On 24 August 2005, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft and one Cougar Turkish military aircraft violated international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it later departed towards the FIR of Ankara;

(b) The Cougar Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied areas of Mesaoria, Ammochostos and Morfou, before returning to the same airport.

On 31 August 2005, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it later departed towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 1 September 2005, one Cougar Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Morfou, before returning to the same airport.

On 1 September 2005, one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before returning to the same airport.

On 7 September 2005, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it later departed towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 12 September 2005, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft coming in one formation from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations.

On the same day, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft coming in one formation entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus.

On 13 September 2005, one Cougar Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, and then later at the illegal airport of Krini, where it remained.

On 14 September 2005, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the

Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, from where it later departed towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 17 September 2005, one Twin HU-1 Turkish military aircraft took off from the illegal airport of Krini, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 19 September 2005, one CN-235 Turkish military aircraft and one Turkish military aircraft of unknown type entered the FIR of Nicosia, violated international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The CN-235 Turkish military aircraft coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou, before departing on the same day towards the FIR of Ankara;

(b) The Turkish military aircraft of unknown type coming from the FIR of Ankara entered the FIR of Nicosia, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the occupied area of Mesaoria, before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On behalf of my Government I would like to strongly protest the aforementioned violations and hereby call for their immediate cessation. The non-observance by Turkey of rules and regulations governing air traffic constitutes a serious threat to the safety of flights and a breach of its international obligations. At the same time, its attempt to upgrade an illegal secessionist entity in the occupied part of Cyprus to the detriment of a sovereign country, Member of the United Nations and the European Union, arrogating to itself the characteristics of a State, constitutes a blatant violation of international law with serious ramifications for the peace and stability of the region.

Instead of promoting a policy of separation and undermining the Republic of Cyprus, Turkey should seek ways of cooperation in finding a mutually accepted and lasting settlement to the Cyprus issue, according to United Nations resolutions, and contributing to the maintenance of stability and prosperity in the region.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 19, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Andreas D. **Mavroyiannis**